

Huehuetla Tepehua

Huehuetla Tepehua is a moribund Tepehua language spoken in Huehuetla, northeastern Hidalgo, Mexico. There are fewer than 1,500 speakers left according to Susan Smythe Kung (2007).

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Huehuetla Tepehua	
<i>Lhiimaqalhqamaʔ</i>	
Native to	Mexico
Region	northeastern Hidalgo, Mexico
Native speakers	1,500 (2007) ^[1]
Language family	<div>Totonacan<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tepehua<ul style="list-style-type: none">Huehuetla Tepehua</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	tee
Glottolog	hueh1236 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/hueh1236) ^[2]

Syntax

Word order tends to be VSO, although it can be SVO at times (Kung 2007).

Phonology

Consonants

Consonant phonemes

		Labial	Alveolar		Post-alveolar	Velar	Uvular	Glottal
			Plain	Lateral				
Nasal		m	<u>n</u>					
Stop	Plain	p	<u>t</u>			<u>k</u>	<u>q</u>	<u>ʔ</u>
	Ejective	p'	<u>t'</u>			<u>k'</u>		
	Voiced	(b)	(<u>d</u>)			(<u>g</u>)		
Affricate	Plain	<u>ts</u>			<u>tʃ</u>			
	Ejective	ts'			<u>tʃ'</u>			
Fricative			<u>s</u>	<u>ʃ</u>	ʃ			<u>h</u>
Approximant		<u>w</u>		<u>l</u>	j			
Trill			<u>r</u>					
Flap			<u>ɾ</u>					

The voiced stops /b/, /d/, and /g/, as well as the flap /ɾ/ and the trill /r/, appear only in loanwords and ideophones. In younger speakers, the uvular /q/ has merged with the glottal stop /ʔ/.

Vowels

Vowel Phonemes

	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
Mid	e		o
Low		a	

Morphology

Huehuetla Tepehua has a large variety of affixes (Kung 2007).

Valency-changing affixes

- Reflexive -kan
- Reciprocal laa-
- Dative -ni
- Causative maa-
- Instrumental puu-
- Comitative t'aa-
- Applicative lhii-

Aspectual derivational affixes

- Inchoative ta-
- Imminent ti-
- Roundtrip kii-
- Ambulative -t'ajun
- Begin -tzuku
- Desiderative -putun
- Repetitive -pala
- Again -choqo
- All -qoju
- Distal -chaa and Proximal -chii

Derivative affixes

- Agent nominalizer –nV7
- Non-agentive nominalizers –ti and -nti
- Deverbalizer -n
- Instrumental prefixes paa- and lhaa-
- Locative prefix puu-
- Applicative prefix lhii-

- Comitative prefix t'aa-

References

1. Huehuetla Tepehua (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/tee/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
 2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Huehuetla Tepehua" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/hueh1236>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
- Kung, Susan Smythe. 2007 *A Descriptive Grammar of Huehuetla Tepehua* (<http://repositories.lib.utexas.edu/handle/2152/3137>). Ph.D. dissertation: The University of Texas at Austin.
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